## ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES NEWS RELEASE



Sam Cotten, Commissioner Scott Kelley, Director



Contact: Nathaniel Nichols, Area Management Biologist Natura Richardson, Asst. Area Management Biologist Kodiak Area Office 351 Research Court Kodiak, Alaska 99615

Date Issued: February 8, 2018

Phone: (907) 486-1840 Fax: (907) 486-1824

## Partial Closure of the Semidi Island Overlap Section of the Kodiak District

## **Emergency Order 4-S-05-18**

to Commercial Tanner Crab Fishing

State waters (0–3 nmi offshore) adjacent to the Alaska Peninsula (including Sutwik Island) in the Semidi Island Overlap Section of the Kodiak District will close to commercial Tanner crab fishing at 11:59 p.m. February 10, 2018. Catch reports indicate a closure in this area is warranted due to low Tanner crab abundance and declining fishery performance.

All pots within the closed area must be open and unbaited at the time of the closure. Unbaited pots may be stored in the closed area in waters greater than 25 fathoms in depth for 72 hours. After 72 hours, all pots remaining in the closed area must be removed from the water or placed in waters 25 fathoms in depth or less.

Federal waters (3–200 nmi offshore), and state waters adjacent to the Semidi Islands, in the Semidi Island Overlap Section will remain open until further notice. Vessels operators are not required to deliver crab harvested from the closed area prior to harvesting crab in the remaining open area.

For additional information contact ADF&G in Kodiak at (907) 486-1840.